

**FREDERICK COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING MINUTES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGING  
December 9, 2013**

<b>COA MEMBERS</b>	<b>DOA STAFF</b>	<b>EXCUSED</b>	<b>UNEXCUSED</b>	<b>GUESTS</b>
Rae Ann Butler	Sue Ramsburg	Irene Packer	Dan Yeeles	Katie Rhinehart
Ernell Graham	Pat Rosensteel	Mary Rice		
David Gray, Comm		Debra Savageau		
Ann Holiday		Carolyn True		
Carol Krimm, Alderman				
Louise Lynch				
Bill Moseley				
Virginia Skelley				

- I. **Call to Order** – RaeAnn Butler called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.
- II. **Welcome & Introductions** – RaeAnn welcomed all attendees.
- III. **Action on the Agenda** – There were no suggested changes to the agenda for today.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of the September 9, 2013 meeting were approved with one correction. On page three, section IX, there is no “p” in the last name Tomson. October 7, 2013 minutes were approved with one correction. The date in the heading should read “October 7” instead of “September 9”. All were in favor.
- V. **Commissioner’s Report** – Commissioner Gray stated that the Circuit Court hearing for CCRC/MAL will be held on January 16<sup>th</sup>. This is the former Board of Trustees suit against the BoCC in regard to the sale. There will also be a hearing with the Frederick City Planning

Commission in regard to the subdivision of the properties.

Commissioner Gray encourages members present to familiarize themselves on the fundamentals of the new form of county government which will be in place after the next election. There will be a County Executive and five council members. Citizens should do some research to ensure they are well informed of the guidelines under which new officials will operate.

**Alderman's Report** – Alderman Krimm stated that this will be her last meeting as an Alderman. She would like to continue to participate in some way. She will also remain on TSAC. She does not know who the new Alderman representative will be for this Commission. RaeAnn encouraged Alderman Krimm to attend any future meetings as she has always presented valuable information regarding State issues.

- VI. 2014 CoA Action Plan from Needs Assessment, RaeAnn Butler –**  
An Action Plan page from the Needs Assessment that pertained specifically to the CoA was distributed with the minutes. The CoA should spend some time in January and February establishing a new strategic plan. The current plan ends this year. Members are encouraged to review these topics and make note of goals they think would be appropriate to work on over the next three to five years. The CoA would like the opportunity to advocate for the DoA in regard to budget issues which may negatively affect the growing number of senior needs. Input from the CoA in regard to the budget has been discouraged in previous years. There was a suggestion that the CoA submit a letter to the BoCC which would reiterate what the current needs are based on the Needs Assessment. This letter would also request there be no further budget cuts which may have an affect on seniors. A subcommittee was formed to generate this letter. It was suggested that a review be done of the needs assessment to come up with five top priorities to include in the letter. There was a suggestion of also considering what may be appropriate for private/public partnerships. RaeAnn, Ginny, and Alderman Krimm will plan to meet and put together a letter which can be presented at the January meeting. It was suggested that Carolyn also be included in this group. There was also a suggestion that someone from this Commission meet with potential candidates to provide a copy of the needs assessment and invite them to a monthly meeting. RaeAnn and Louise will plan to take on this role. There should be a way to make citizens aware of the guidelines for the Charter Government. RaeAnn and Louise will talk with someone at the League of Women Voters about making this information more public. They will be attending a meeting with them this Saturday.

**Report from Growth Task Force, RaeAnn Butler** – The CoA was invited to attend the Growth Task Force. RaeAnn has attended the last three meetings. She submitted a position statement from this Commission which included the following items. 1 – Thank you for the invite to be on this group. 2 – The projected growth of the senior population in Frederick County is a fact. 3 – The CoA does not have a position on impact fee, recordation tax, and/or transfer tax at this time other than how it may impact seniors who are living on a fixed income. There are many seniors who are already struggling with housing. RaeAnn gave a brief overview of the different fees/taxes and the position that other attendees presented. The next question that will be asked is the possibility of an increase in the income tax for Frederick County residents. RaeAnn would like some feedback from this group to take to the next meeting. There was a general agreement today that there be no increase in the income tax and agreement to keep the impact fee.

Alderman Krimm also attended this Task Force and has suggested that if there is new revenue, a fund be created for seniors who need to rehab or make modifications to their homes in order to age in place. There are already some funds in place via different programs. Seniors are reluctant to use these funds for fear of losing their homes.

**Nominating Committee Report – 2014 State of Officers, RaeAnn Butler**– Three new members were approved in November. Katie Rhinehart's term will begin in January 2014. Hazel LaCoste was approved as well as Elizabeth Chung. There are still three positions open on the Commission. There was some discussion that the by-laws be changed to state that the CoA membership consist of "enough members to conduct business, but not to exceed fifteen members" who must be residents of Frederick County and registered voters. This would allow some flexibility if all openings were not filled. It would take two months to have this approved as it would need to be presented to the BoCC for approval. Ginny made a motion to amend the by-laws with this specific change. Louise seconded the motion. All were in favor. RaeAnn will send an email to Joyce Grossnickle regarding the change. The CoA will vote on this change in January.

There is a need for a new slate of officers as this will be RaeAnn's last meeting as a voting member of this Commission. There has been no one interested in being the Chair or Vice Chairperson. Louise will become Acting Chair in the absence of a new Chairperson. Louise's term will end in June 2014. There are also two openings on the Executive Committee. There will be a request put before the BoCC to allow RaeAnn remain on the Commission as a non-voting member. The Executive Committee meets the last Tuesday of each month to discuss any new issues in Frederick County and to set the agenda for

the upcoming meeting. Ann Holiday may be interested in joining the Committee and she was invited to attend the next meeting. Ernell Graham stated that perhaps one of the new oncoming members may be interested in joining one of the open Committees.

**VII. Update on CCRC/MAL Status,** This was presented during Commissioner Gray's comments but he added that this topic was presented in the Washington Post Metro section. This means that more people may become aware of this issue. Alderman Krimm stated that the City Attorney will defend the decision of the Planning Committee.

**VIII. TSAC, Alderman Krimm –** Alderman Krimm stated that the Committee continues to pursue the transport of seniors for medical appointments. The taxi voucher will come up in July 2014. There is still an issue of citizens not having all transportations needs met.

**State CoA, Louise Lynch –** Louise was not able to attend the last meeting. The December meeting is this Wednesday. The Summit meeting of representatives from all state CoAs was very successful and will be repeated next year. There was a recent Governor's Task Force to review the idea of a tax holiday for the purchase of emergency preparedness equipment. This report went to the Governor on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Partners in Care, Ernell Graham –** Ernell distributed some new brochures which are being utilized the PiC. She went over some statistics that were presented at recent meetings. They also received \$1,000 donations from the Ausherman Foundation and Daybreak. They also recently received a \$1,000 from the Elder Services Provider Council. Ernell also passed around a document which shows what type of tasks are provided by the volunteers

**USM, Ginny Skelley –** Ginny has not been able to participate in this organization. She is also not receiving any newsletters via email.

**Adult Public Disabled Review Board, Mary Rice –** This group met last Monday. Everyone was receiving appropriate services.

**IX. Announcements, All –**

**X. Public Comment–** The meeting adjourned at 2:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Frederick County Commission on Aging  
12/9/13

Susan M. Ramsburg  
Recording Secretary

Upcoming Dates:

January 13, 2014, Commission on Aging, 1:00 at Frederick Senior Center, 1440  
Taney Ave, Frederick, MD,

January 28, 2014. CoA Executive Committee meeting, 1:00 at Frederick County  
Dept of Aging